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## **DOD-level awards given to ManTech engineers**

*by Gary Cunningham, Materials and Manufacturing Directorate*

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — Walter Zimmer, an engineer with the Manufacturing Technology, or ManTech, Division of Air Force Research Laboratory's Materials and Manufacturing Directorate, received the fifth annual Defense Manufacturing Technology achievement award at the recent Defense Manufacturing Conference in Washington, D.C.

The award recognizes defense and private sector individuals responsible for developing innovative manufacturing processes that improve the affordability, cycle time, readiness and availability of weapon systems and components for warfighter needs.

The laser additive manufacturing team, with representatives from the Army, Navy, Air Force, Defense Logistics Agency, Pratt and Whitney, AeroMet Corp., Lockheed Martin, The Boeing Co., Northrop Grumman and MTS Systems Corp., was recognized for developing and implementing a new manufacturing process.

David See, an engineer and program manager with ManTech, led the rest of his laser shock peening initiative team in capturing two Department of Defense awards, the Defense Technology Achievement Award and the Small Business Team Award for Defense Manufacturing Excellence for 2003.

The Air Force ManTech Program, working with General Electric Aircraft Engines and LSP Technologies, Inc. of Dublin, Ohio, developed this emerging technology, as a potential solution to increase the durability of titanium fan blades and decrease the sensitivity to foreign object damage.

Sue Payton, deputy Under Secretary of Defense, Advanced Systems and Concepts, presented the awards.

For information, call the technical information center at 255-4689.